

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : Mr. D. J. Brennan, Jr.

DATE : February 10, 1964

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

James Angleton, CIA, furnished the following information to the Liaison Agent on 2/7/64.

He made reference to recent newspaper publicity given to Chief Justice Warren's statement to the effect that Mrs. Oswald's testimony before the Commission might not be revealed to the public for years. Warren's statement left the impression that information presented before the Commission would be held secret. Angleton emphasized that Warren's statement obviously has set off a flurry of speculation in the foreign press which could be most prejudicial to U. S. interests and specifically to the FBI and CIA.

Angleton stated that the Italian newspaper "Il Messaggero" (middle-of-the-road publication of the Christian Democratic Party) carried an article datelined 2/3/64, New York City, written by Lucio Manisco, the publication's New York correspondent. This article stated, "The declarations of Chief Justice Warren to the effect that the testimony of Mrs. Oswald would not be released in our generation could be related to rumors circulating in Washington, D. C., for the past month; namely, that Oswald worked for CIA in the Soviet Union and that he reportedly was used by FBI to infiltrate pro-Castro organizations after he returned from Russia." This particular article apparently gave rise to other articles which have appeared in Italian newspapers in the last two or three days; these newspapers were "Avanti," a Socialist publication; "Paese Cera," a crypto-communist newspaper, and "Unita," a Communist Party publication. The headlines on these newspapers read, "CIA Sent Oswald to U.S.S.R."; "FBI Used Oswald as Provocateur"; "Lee Oswald Employed by FBI"; and "Oswald In Service of FBI."

OBSERVATIONS:

Obviously, the above-described stories are developing some momentum. Although it appears the stories have been restricted to Italy, there is every reason to believe that the press in other

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. Belmon
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. P. P. [unclear]

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H. J. [unclear] (8)

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countries will follow the same line. We also can't discount the fact that the Soviets and communists may be behind this entire maneuver.

RECOMMENDATION:

(1) It is recommended that consideration be given by Mr. Malley of sowing the idea with Mr. Rankin that the Commission should issue a public statement making reference to these ridiculous rumors as described above and clearing the public air once and for all relative thereto. Rankin knows there is no foundation in fact to such absurd rumors.

suggest we do not do this. I agree. I want not further from Warren Commission.

(2) If approved, there is enclosed herewith a cable to Legat, Rome, requesting him to follow Rome newspapers and cable summarized analyses, together with any information which he can obtain through available sources regarding purpose and background of this propaganda. He is also being asked for available information concerning Manisco.

Yes.

Bureau files are being searched concerning Manisco.